operational. It is also our endeavour to identify viable border trade points with Bangladesh. A positive response from Bangladesh is awaited.

(c) Border trade transacted across the Indo-Myanmar border via Moreh in Manipur since 12th April '95 till 15th June, 1996 is as under:—

Exports	:	Rs. 16.71 crores
Imports	:	Rs. 09.06 crores
Total	:	Rs. 25.77 crores

Trade deficit in Dollar Terms

2288. SHRI RAJNATH SINGH 'SURYA':
SHRI MUKESH R. PATEL:
SHRI SANJAY NIRUPAM:

Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the country's trade deficit in dollar terms during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 and the expected deficit in 1996-97;

(b) whether Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) has indicated that the trade deficit of 1996-97 would be much more than that projected in Economic Survey as reported in the Hindustan Times dated the 27th February, 1997;

(c) if so, the reaction of Government thereto; and

(d) whether the Organisation was consulted before finalising the survey?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) As per DGCI&S data, the country's trade deficit during 1993-94, 1994-95 and 1995-96 was US $ 1069 million, 2324 million and 4881 million respectively. The trade deficit as per the information available for April-January, 1996-97 in the current year is placed at US $ 4289 million. No projection for the expected deficit is made.

(b) and (c) The news item has mentioned that the Federation of Indian Export Organisation (FIEO) has stated that the trade deficit for 1996-97 would be in the range of US $ 4-5 billion. The Economic Survey 1996-97 has not mentioned any projection about trade deficit.

(d) While preparing the Economic Survey, the Ministry of Finance has not consulted the FIEO.

राज्य व्यापार निगम में घाटे

2289. **श्री गोपाल सिंह जी० सोलंकी:** क्या वाणिज्य मंत्री यह बताने की कृपा करेंगे कि:

(क) क्या राज्य व्यापार निगम को गत तीन वर्षों के दौरान करोड़ों रुपये का घाटा हुआ है;

(ख) यदि हां, तो वर्ष-वार, विभाग-वार और क्षेत्र-वार तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है;

(ग) प्रत्येक मामले में तत्संबंधी कारण क्या हैं;

(घ) क्या सरकार ने घाटे के मामलों में कोई जांच की है;

(ङ) यदि हां, तो तत्संबंधी ब्यौरा क्या है; और

(च) सरकार द्वारा घाटे को रोकने हेतु क्या सुधारात्मक उपाय किए गए हैं/किए जाने का प्रस्ताव है?

वाणिज्य मंत्रालय में राज्य मंत्री (डा० बोल्ला बुल्ली रमैया): (क) जी, नहीं। राज्य व्यापार निगम मुनाफा कमाने वाला संगठन है और पिछले तीन वर्षों के दौरान इसके द्वारा कर से पूर्व अर्जित समेकित मुनाफा नीचे दिया गया है:

	(करोड़ रुपये में)
1993-94	30
1994-95	41
1995-96	33

(ख) से (च) प्रश्न नहीं उठते।

Decline in Export of Black Pepper

2290. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether there is any decline in the export of black pepper during the last three years;

(b) if so, the reasons therefor;

(c) the total quantity of pepper exported to various countries and the foreign exchange earned therefrom during the above period; and

(d) the steps taken by Government to boost the export of pepper?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) The details of the total exports of black pepper including pepper powder during the last 3 years are given below:—

Year	Quantity (Tonnes)	Value (Rs. Crores)
1993-94	46,857	178.7957
1994-95	35,371	225.8716
1995-96 (P)	24,223	181.8453
1996-97(Apr. 96-Jan. 97)	35,500	292.42
1995-96(Apr. 95-Jan. 96)	18,326	131.64

Source : DGCI&S, Calcutta/Shipping Bills/Exporters' Returns.

The exports of black pepper have shown a mixed trend in terms of quantity & value during the last three years. Exports during April-Jan. (1996-97) have shown a sub-stantial increase over the corresponding period last year.

The main reason for decline in export of pepper during 1995-96 was depressed demand in USA, the major pepper importing country.

The country-wise details of exports are available in the monthly bulletin/annual numbers of the Foreign Trade Statistics published by the DGCI&S, Calcutta, copies of which are supplied to the Parliament Library.

(d) Apart from the general trade policy reforms, the steps taken to enhance export of spices including pepper are abolition of cess on export of pepper (except green pepper in brine) to enhance its price competitiveness in the overseas markets; implementation of brand promotion schemes like logo promotion; grant of spice house certificate as a recognition of processor exporters of quality products; setting up of laboratories for testing of products; technology transfer; process upgradaton and product development.

Review of Advance Licensing Scheme

2291. SHRI SANJAY DALMIA: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government propose to review the advance licensing scheme;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the time by when the above review is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) to (c) As part of the exercise of formulation of the new Export and Import Policy all the major export Promotion schemes including the Advance Licensing Scheme are proposed to be reviewed. The details of the same would be available when the new Export and Import Policy will be announced in April, 1997.

Export of Sandal Wood Oil and Jasmine Concentrate

2292. DR. D. VENKATESHWAR RAO: Will the Minister of COMMERCE be pleased to state:

(a) the condition on export of sandal wood oil and jasmine concentrate; and

(b) the reasons for sudden on exports thereof?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF COMMERCE (DR. BOLLA BULLI RAMAIAH): (a) and (b) Export of Sandalwood Oil is permitted subject to (i) production of Certificate of Origin from the Principal/ Chief Conservator of Forests of the State concerned; (ii) No Objection Certificate from the Ministry of Environment & Forests, Government of India; and (iii) Any other condition, includiung a ceiling